



DEFENSE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

For Psychological Health & Traumatic Brain Injury

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Deployment Health Clinical Center Names New Director

BETHESDA, Md. – The Deployment Health Clinical Center (DHCC) recently welcomed Navy Capt. Anthony Arita as its new director.

DHCC is one of three centers of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE). Its primary aim is to advance excellence in psychological health care in the military health system.

“I am pleased to welcome Capt. Arita,” said DCoE director Navy Capt. Richard Stoltz. “His professional expertise and experience in military medicine will greatly benefit our future efforts. Additionally, his understanding of DCoE and DHCC will enable us to continue to improve psychological health knowledge and standards of care in the military health system.”

Arita, a clinical neuropsychologist, has worked in a wide range of clinical settings. His experience includes issues related to psychological and neuropsychological assessment, operational psychology, threat assessment, traumatic brain injury and the spectrum of psychological health concerns.

Prior to arriving at DHCC, Arita served as the strategic integrator in the Wounded, Ill and Injured program at the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Falls Church, Va. His other assignments include clinical neuropsychologist at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Bethesda, Md.; director of outreach at DCoE; operational psychologist at Navy Criminal Investigative Service, Washington, D.C.; clinical neuropsychologist at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md.; the first psychologist aboard USS Carl Vinson; staff psychologist at Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; and clinical psychology resident at Naval Medical Center San Diego. He served on deployments to Camp Liberty, Iraq; Detention Hospital, Joint Task Force, Joint Medical Group, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and a shipboard deployment to the Persian Gulf.

“I am truly excited to join this tremendous team of professionals who are deeply engaged and dedicated to serving our warriors, families and the health care providers who care for them,” said Arita. “We serve a vital mission that addresses an enduring need of those who have sacrificed so much on behalf of our great nation. To them we owe our deepest commitment to advance excellence in prevention, screening and early detection, resilience, care quality, access to care, translation of science to practice and advocacy for psychological health.”

Arita succeeds Army Col. Charles Engel, who had been DHCC's director since it was established in 1994 as the Gulf War Center. Engel will retire in September after 30 years of military service.

About DCoE

The mission of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) is to improve the lives of our nation's service members, families and veterans by advancing excellence in psychological health and traumatic brain injury prevention and care. DCoE serves as the principal integrator and authority on psychological health and traumatic brain injury knowledge and standards for the Department of Defense. The organization is comprised of three centers: Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, Deployment Health Clinical Center and National Center for Telehealth and Technology. Learn more about DCoE at www.dcoe.health.mil.

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